

Mr. Speaker, the journalists should go free, and the North Korean outlaws should take their place in that prison. And that's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING THE NAVAJO CODE TALKERS

(Mr. TEAGUE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. TEAGUE. Mr. Speaker, over the Memorial Day recess, our Nation lost two individuals that I consider to be national treasures. Two marines that were known as "Navajo Code Talkers" passed away: John Brown, Jr., of Crystal, New Mexico, and his compatriot, Thomas Claw. Both were 87.

During World War II, the Marines recruited members of the Navajo Nation for the specific purpose of devising a code that was based on the Navajo language. The Japanese were never able to break the code, and the Code Talkers were credited with helping save lives and contributing to the military success in the Pacific theater.

The Code Talkers' contributions were invaluable, and we should always be grateful for their service. They did so much, and their contribution can be summarized best by what John Brown said when he was presented with the Congressional Gold Medal: "We have seen much in our lives. We have seen war and peace, and we know the value of the freedom and democracy that this great Nation embodies. But our experience also reminds us how fragile these things can be and how vigilant we must be in protecting them."

FISCAL RESTRAINT

(Mr. CHAFFETZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. CHAFFETZ. Mr. Speaker, I hold in my hand the voting card of the United States Congress. Now, this is the ultimate credit card. There's no limit and there's no penalties. And it's wrong.

Every time I hear a solution from the Democrats, it's about spending more. We have got to stop running this country on a credit card. The problems that we face in this Nation, the challenges that we face are not solved by charging things on the credit card.

The American Dream is not about overspending and being in debt. It's about hard work and perseverance and liberty. Every time we add dollars to this card, we take away that liberty.

I urge my colleagues, come up with solutions that don't include an increase in spending. Cap-and-trade is one of the largest tax increases in the history of the United States of America.

Please, let's stop running this government on a credit card. Institute fiscal restraint, and remember that it's the people's money. It's not the Congress' money.

HEALTH CARE REFORM

(Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. EDWARDS of Maryland. Mr. Speaker, our current health care system is unsustainable. Working people go every day without care or struggle to pay increasingly higher premiums and deductibles. In my home State of Maryland, 76.7 percent of the uninsured are from working families.

Now, if a single-payer plan is not adopted by this Congress, which I support strongly, then we must have a robust public plan option like Medicare to be enacted to reduce costs for small businesses and individuals, provide true competition, and give patients the choice they deserve. A public plan option has to be available to all without exclusions. It must retain patient choice and implement reforms that promote quality care, prevention, primary care, and chronic health care management. And importantly, a public plan option must address health care disparities in underrepresented communities.

Mr. Speaker, this Congress and President will be judged by our ability to construct a health care system that covers all Americans, lowers costs for everyone, and provides real and competitive choice for health care. The time for reform is now, and we can't delay.

THE CRISIS IN HEALTH CARE

(Mr. ROE of Tennessee asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, it's time we address the crisis in health care. We can ensure every American can get the care they need, protect individuals from costs that can bankrupt them, and make health insurance portable so they can move or change jobs without losing health insurance coverage. We can also stop insurance companies from avoiding sick patients by reforming the system to pay when people become healthier.

Enacting a public plan will not bring about this type of change. If you think you won't be affected by a public plan, consider this: a recent analysis by the respected independent firm The Lewin Group estimated that 70 percent of individuals who have health care coverage through their employer would lose those benefits in favor of a public option. This plan could very easily be a Medicaid-like plan. In fact, Senator KENNEDY is proposing expanding Medicaid to families making up to \$110,000 a year in legislation he dropped yesterday.

When supporters of a public plan say they want a public plan to compete with private plans, the facts show that what they're really saying is they want a Washington bureaucrat to take over health care decisionmaking. Buyer beware.

H. RES. 505, CONDEMNING THE MURDER OF DR. GEORGE R. TILLER

(Ms. HIRONO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, later today the House will consider H. Res. 505, a bill that condemns the tragic murder of Dr. George Tiller, and offers our condolences to his wife, four children and 10 grandchildren.

He was known as a doctor of last resort and a friend to women when they were in desperate need of support and care. His murder in his church in Wichita, where he served as an usher and where his wife sang in the choir, was a violent, lawless and senseless act.

At his memorial service this past Saturday, Dr. Tiller was remembered for his generosity of spirit and his sense of humor. Let us also remember him for his courage.

Mahalo nui loa (thank you very much).

IMPRISONMENT OF AMERICAN JOURNALISTS IN NORTH KOREA

(Mr. ROYCE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, news came yesterday that Laura Ling and Euna Lee, two American journalists held in North Korea, and held there since March, have been found guilty of illegally entering North Korea. They've been sentenced to 12 years of hard labor. These court proceedings were a cruel joke, nothing more than a kangaroo court. I know of no justice system in North Korea. The two should be immediately released.

As if there were any doubts, the North Korean regime has shown its true colors, a hostile regime bent on destroying the lives of its own citizens and others.

Let's be clear. These two wouldn't have been near North Korea were it not for the barbaric cruelty of its regime. Ling and Lee were convicted of so-called "grave crimes." It is the North Korean regime that commits real grave crimes against millions of North Koreans every day.

President Obama, himself, must make it clear that this action cannot stand. Now is the time for urgent action.

OUR HEALTH CARE SYSTEM

(Mr. HIMES asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, it has become amply clear to all Americans, North, South, Republican, Democrat, rich, poor, that our health care system is not just a moral embarrassment to the greatest country on Earth, but a severe economic liability.